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**QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD**

Letter dated 15 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office at Geneva
addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

Terror against and harassment of Serbs and other non-Albanian population in the Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija are continuing unabated. On the one hand, they are perpetrated by terrorists of the so-called KLA and on the other by KFOR, UNMIK and Bernard Kouchner.

As you are aware, 43 Serbs, arrested by KFOR and UNMIK on the basis of unfounded and arbitrary accusations by Albanian terrorists of the so-called KLA, have been kept in the district prison in Kosovska Mitrovica for almost 10 months. KFOR, UNMIK and Bernard Kouchner have done nothing in these past 10 months towards organizing the necessary judicial procedure (investigative actions, trials, etc.). At the same time, KFOR, UNMIK and B. Kouchner have ordered the district court in Kosovska Mitrovica to release from prison Ademi Djeljaj, who, on 7 March 2000, threw two hand grenades on residents of the northern part of Kosovska Mitrovica and French soldiers of KFOR, whereby 14 French soldiers and 22 Serbs were wounded. Due to such an attitude and the permanent harassment of Serbs by KFOR, UNMIK and Bernard Kouchner, 37 Serbs detained in the district prison of Kosovska Mitrovica went on a hunger strike on 10 April 2000. These Serbs demand from KFOR, UNMIK and B. Kouchner that legal, fair and unbiased trials be organized without delay or that they be immediately released. The dragging out of organizing a trial of the Serbs, detained arbitrarily and with no evidence in the district prison in Kosovska Mitrovica, has solely political reasons, so that the detained Serbs, by means of a known media campaign, based on lies, are pictured as criminals.

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Detaining 43 Serbs in the district prison in Kosovska Mitrovica for 10 months, without undertaking any judicial procedure, represents a flagrant violation of the basic human rights, a serious breach of the court proceedings, discrimination on the grounds of nationality and a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Excellency,

Such a flagrant violation of the basic human rights of Serbs detained in the district prison in Kosovska Mitrovica requires your most urgent and energetic action so that an end may be put immediately to this flagrant violation of human rights. At the same time, the Government of the FR of Yugoslavia expects that you will take without delay all necessary steps within the Security Council, and with KFOR, UNMIK and B. Kouchner, so that the terror against and harassment of Serbs and other non-Albanian population in the Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija is stopped at once, both by terrorists of the so-called KLA and by KFOR, UNMIK and Bernard Kouchner.

We are enclosing herewith a list with names of 33 persons, detained in the district prison in Kosovska Mitrovica, who are among the 37 mentioned above who went on hunger strike due to the unacceptable attitude of KFOR, UNMIK and B. Kouchner.

I would like to ask you to have this letter and enclosed list published as an official document of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 9.

(Signed) Branko BRANKOVIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

LIST

With names of persons detained in the district prison in Kocovska Mitrovica
who went on a hunger strike

1. Kolasinac Andjelko
2. Simic Vekoslav
3. Levic Stanislav
4. Matic Menad
5. Mistic Bogoljub
6. Jovanovic Cedomir
7. Jovanovic Stojan
8. Krstic Novica
9. Mistic Danilo
10. Micic Dejan
11. Vitosevic Arsenije
12. Djinovic Miodrag
13. Mistic Radislav
14. Matic Sava
15. Jovanovic Dragan
16. Aleksic Vladimir
17. Aleksic Srdjan
18. Vuckovic Tomislav
19. Vacetic Vlado
20. Oligorovski Lazar
21. Vuckovic Miroslav
22. Mutavdzic Nebojsa
23. Popovic Branielav
24. Simic Igor
25. Simic Zvezdan
26. Apostolovic Radovan
27. Radulovic Menad
28. Peica Dragisa
29. Stanojevic Zoran
30. Joksimovic Slobodan
31. Mladenovic Ljubisa
32. Stolic Ljubomir
33. Skulic Milos

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